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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

TO:	Examiner A. Tugbang U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
FROM:	Douglas W. Pinsky
RE:	Application No.: 09/339,869 Attorney Dkt. No.: 03500.013613
FAX NO.:	(703) 746-4258
DATE:	September 23, 2004 **NO. OF PAGES:** 4 *(including cover page)*
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MESSAGE

Per our telephone conversation

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1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing an ink discharge port of an ink jet head provided with discharge ports for discharging ink, the discharge ports being provided at respective discharge port positions on a discharge port plate, the method comprising the steps of:

closely contacting a mask plate having openings corresponding to the discharge ports with a face of the discharge port plate on an ink discharge side; and

forming the discharge port on the discharge port plate by irradiating plural high energy ultraviolet beams simultaneously through the mask plate so that the beams are inclined with respect to a vertical axis that is perpendicular to the mask plate,

wherein the plural beams are simultaneously irradiated at one of the respective discharge port positions of the discharge port plate to form the discharge port and are incident at the single discharge port position from different directions, and

wherein the formed discharge port has ~~a shape that widens~~ an area that increases in a direction away from a source of the beams.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing an ink jet head provided with discharge ports for discharging ink and a discharge port plate having the discharge ports at respective discharge port positions, the method comprising the steps of:

closely contacting a mask plate having openings corresponding to the discharge ports with a face of the discharge port plate on an ink discharge side; and

forming a discharge port on the discharge port plate by irradiating plural high energy ultraviolet beams simultaneously through the mask plate so that the beams are inclined with respect to a vertical axis that is perpendicular to the mask plate,

wherein the plural beams are simultaneously irradiated at one of the respective discharge port positions of the discharge port plate to form the discharge port and are incident at the single discharge port position from different directions, and

wherein the formed discharge port has ~~a shape that widens~~ an area that increases in a direction away from a source of the beams.

32. (Currently Amended) A method for processing an ink discharge port of an ink jet head provided with discharge ports for discharging ink, the discharge ports being provided at respective discharge port positions on a discharge port plate, the method comprising the steps of:

closely contacting a mask plate having openings corresponding to the discharge ports with a face of the discharge port plate on an ink discharge side; and

forming the discharge port on the discharge port plate by irradiating plural high energy beams simultaneously through the mask plate so that the beams are inclined with respect to a vertical axis that is perpendicular to the mask plate,

wherein the plural beams are simultaneously irradiated at a single discharge port position of the discharge port plate to form the discharge port and are incident at the single

discharge port position from different directions, and

wherein~~, after the formation of the discharge port,~~ the formed discharge port has ~~a shape that widens~~ an area that increases in a direction away from a source of the beams.

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